

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 EB-07 COME-00 L-03 /042 W

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R 081820Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 799

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJ: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE IN ITALY

REF: (A) ROME 3097, (B) USIA 6281

1. WE HAD NOT EXPECTED ENTER INTO REF EXCHANGE COMMUNICATIONS, BUT WE SEE BROADER POLICY INTERESTS AT STAKE IN THIS ISSUE AND AT SAME TIME WISH COMMENT ON CERTAIN WORDING CONTAINED REFTEL B.

2. WE APPRECIATE ROME'S CONCERN REGARDING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S SPEAKER REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCING TORTURE CARRIED OUT IN URUGUAY USING INSTRUMENTS "MADE IN USA". THIS MUST HAVE BEEN SPEAKER'S OWN ADDITION TO OTHER AMNESTY CHARGES SINCE COMPLETE FILE OF AMNESTY FEBRUARY 19 PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK WHICH WE HAVE MAKES NO MENTION OF THIS CHARGE ALTHOUGH DOES REFER TO ALLEGED TORTURE INSTRUMENTS USED BY URUGUAYAN SECURITY FORCES.

3. MY CONCERN, HOWEVER, IS THAT EMBASSY ROME APPARENTLY WISHES TO REFUTE CHARGES REGARDING ALLEGED TORTURE INSTRUMENTS "MADE IN USA". I THINK CAREFUL STUDY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THIS MATTER SINCE ITALY IS BUT ONE OF SOME 40 COUNTRIES IN WHICH AMNESTY IS CARRYING OUT ITS PRESENT INITIATIVE AGAINST URUGUAY. AT SAME TIME,
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ANY REFUTATION DENYING US MANUFACTURE OR DISTRIBUTION OR THAT SUCH

INSTRUMENTS "LEGALLY AVAILABLE" IN US (REF B) COULD STILL LEAVE
IMPRESSION IN MINDS OF THOSE WHO WISH BELIEVE THE WORST, THAT
URUGUAY IS IN FACT DOING PRECISELY WHAT AMNESTY SPOKESMAN CHARGED.

4. TAKEN LITERALLY, PARA 3 OF REFTTEL B GIVES AUTHORITATIVE CHARACTER
TO COSTA GRAVAS FILM "STATE OF SIEGE" AND TO BOOK. I AM SURE THIS
WAS NOT INTENDED SINCE WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THEIR PROPAGANDA
PURPOSES.

HAAHR

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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